

From: Doug Birling
To: Microsoft ATR,microsoftcomments@doj.ca.gov@inetgw,...
Date: 11/21/01 1:29pm
Subject: Anti-Trust Case

I am writing this letter to express me feelings about the Microsoft case. Over the years I have heard of a number of great products that were to be developed, only to be either bought or challenged by Microsoft. The future for us looks no better as Micorsoft wants to control our living rooms with Direct TV, and the XBox gaming system. It is still unknown how evil their "Dot-Net" services will become, but Microsoft has proven time and time again that they cannot be trusted. I have read several articles which state that Microsoft will settle with the US. I have also read a recent article stating that as part of settlement talks that Microsoft as a "Penalty" will pay a billion dollars to pay for school computers. At first this seems like a strong penalty, but this too plays into Microsoft's hand. I'm sure they would love to give out a bunch of copies of windows, knowing full well that they can in the future charge upgrade fees. The number of computers will also add to the Monopoly that they already have. Students will be forced to use windows and their parents might decide "Since the computers at school are Windows, we'll get that at home!" This would just add to the problem. Please consider all sides when enforcing a penalty.

I as an American have the right to choose; If I want to use a computer or not, and if so, what type, what programs. If those choices are dictated to me, then that's not right and something should be done about it.

Doug Birling, Milwaukee WI, USA.